Encroachments on forests

*292. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to regularise the pre-1980 encroachments on forests by revoking the provisions of Forest Conservation Act;

(b) whether any proposal to regularise such encroachments has been received from Kerala;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the areas if any, in the above category proposed to be regularised and converted into the Revenue land in Kerala;

(d) whether any proposal received from the Government of Kerala for compensatory afforestation is pending for approval; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) A decision to regularise eligible category of pre-1980 encroachments in accordance with the guidelines issued on 18th September, 1990 under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, already exists.

(b) and (c) In Kerala, Central Government has approved regularisation of eligible encroachments over 28,588.159 ha. of forest land and to assign land under the Kerala Land Assignment (Regularisation of Occupations of Forest Lands prior to 1.1.1977). Special Rules, 1993 subject to certain conditions on 31.1.1995 in five districts namely, Idukki, Pathanamthitta.Thrissur, Ernakulum and Kollam.

(d) No proposal for compensatory afforestation is pending with the Central Government for approval.

(e) Does not arise.

Retrenchment in SAIL

*293. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SAIL has decided to cut 10,000 jobs;